

# Laos Peoples Democratic Republic – Vientiane Municipality Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



## FACT SHEET . . . . .

The Laos Peoples Democratic Republic – Vientiane Municipality GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Laos Peoples Democratic Republic could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Laos Peoples Democratic Republic – Vientiane Municipality GYTS was a school-based survey of students in

Grades 2-4, conducted in 2003. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Vientiane Municipality. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 93.6%, and the overall response rate was 93.6%. A total of 2300 students participated in the Laos Peoples Democratic Republic GYTS – Vientiane Municipality.

### Prevalence

- 12.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 20.2%, Girls = 3.2%)
- 10.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 16.8%, Girls = 3.5%)
- 6.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 12.0%, Girls = 0.9%)
- 5.2% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 7.1%, Girls = 2.7%)
- 7.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boys = 11.4%, Girls = 3.0%)

### Knowledge and Attitudes

- 15.7% think boys and 5.7% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 8.8% think boys and 5.2% think girls who smoke look more attractive

### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 21.4% usually smoke at home
- 38.3% buy cigarettes in a store
- 67.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

- 42.9% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 57.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 60.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 64.3% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 44.7% have one or more parents who smoke
- 3.8% have most or all friends who smoke

### Cessation - Current Smokers

- 94.2% want to stop smoking
- 86.6% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 85.6% have ever received help to stop smoking

### Media and Advertising

- 93.1% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 61.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 59.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 11.6% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

### School

- 68.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 47.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 63.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

### Highlights

- Almost 11% of students currently use any form of tobacco; Almost 7% currently smoke cigarettes; 5% currently use some other forms of tobacco.
- ETS – Over 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; Almost 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; Over 4 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Over 6 in 10 think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- 6 in 10 students think smoking should be banned from public places.
- Over 9 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- Over 9 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 6 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards or in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.

**For additional information, please contact:**

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